

Proton Sept 8th 1836

Thursday afternoon

Dear Debra,

If you could get a chance to give Bro Elliot a book I would. I shall write soon to Mrs Bond. Say this to her. I shall write to you again in the course of a week wherever I am.

You cannot think how glad I was to get your letter for I was not expecting it quite so soon as to day, therefore when Dr & I put it into my hands I was as surprised as glad almost. My ride from Boston was very pleasant & I arrived a little after 7. The children were all very glad to see me & Miss Gray the present premier extremely polite. Miss G had been in office about a week when I came. She is a very quiet reserved little (not personally, but one of those sorts of women that people call so) woman, from Andover. She has been educated a dress maker but her health obliging her to give up that business she has taken up her present occupation. She is about 45 I suppose, very easy like and kind in her manner the very opposite of Mrs Edwards. She has seen, I expect, considerable trouble. She is very obovile but I do not think quite as slavish in her notions as her predecessors. On the whole I am very glad she is here to patronise me. It is likewise pleasant to me to have one person in this house who has no more thought of my being engaged to the Dr than to Henry or George. Mary has grown a great deal. She is now taller than I am. She treats me very kindly but Miss Gray hardly knows what to make of her and has sifted me once or twice as to her dispositions &c. I was as prudent as possible and gave no information worthy of being called penit. I went to church on Sunday all day, heard the Rev Dudley Phelps who was formerly an Abolitionist & who may perhaps be one now but whose spirit has burnt rather dimly of late. Left church at night, the Dr interrogated me with regard to my state of health and I told him all I could about myself & the result of his opinion was that he doubted whether my state of

health did not proceed from my stomach but instead of my lungs. Now
I believe no such thing but I told him I would do whatever
he prescribed. He told me I must take considerable exercise
every day and be careful as to my food. So on Monday I began
& walked as far as Mr Chaplin's. Tuesday morning I walked
all round by Mr Fullers and in the afternoon through Love
Lane. Wednesday morning I walked to Mr Chaplin's again & in
the afternoon rode down to the Dr's farm. Do not be worried
about my dieting, for I have had pretty near enough & I can
say with truth that I think myself better. My cough has very
much abated and the pain in my side is less. Still I impute
it to the air of Groton & perhaps exercise in the open air may have
been peculiar, but I believe that the difficulty is with my lungs
and not my stomach. You may say however to "inquiring friends"
that I think the air has helped me. I have received letters from
Mrs Robinson, Miss Butler, Mr Chaplin and I have called at Mrs
Fullers and at Mrs Rockwoods. That is all I have done in
the way of calling. Margaret is out of town, at Deerfield and is
expected back in a week or two. I suppose I shall not see a number
of the Groton ladies on account of the strike that is going on
with respect to the settlement of the minister. How much
longer I shall stay I cannot tell. Henry Stanton comes here a
fortnight from to day to lecture. He said something intima-
ting that he expected me to stay till after that time, but I do not
know about it. I shall write to Caroline & ask her advice. If I
am really improving in this air perhaps I had better stay till I
was decidedly better. I am glad that you got there safely but it
seems to me as if you did not like the school quite as well as
you had expected, but then I consider that you had been there but
a very little while and I felt as if there was nothing more in the
world for me, the first two days after I was there. After all,
your remark is very judicious relative to the "recompense" that
is the most cheering circumstance in the whole affair. I am glad
on the whole that Miss Loomis ^{was} there, for she was no great help
to me & you will feel better pleased to teach the drawing yourself
and then you need have no care about teaching a word of the Latin.

I think it disgraceful that Mr Elliot should go the breadth of New England preaching: It is a fact that the Anti Slavery papers should notice. So just as you have a mind to about going to hear him preach. If you think it would do him any good by staying away you ought. Seek an opportunity to hear a faithful testimony if possible. Let me know all that passes. Mrs Bent is certainly the flower of the family. I really am fond of her more so than of all the rest put together. Is Abby there? Give my love to Mr & Mrs B & Lydia. As to Louise I am ready to take her ears off about my letter. If it ever comes out you may break it open & read it and send it to Boston by the first private chance. Remember me very kindly to Miss Briggs. Is it the a little prim thing. If Lucretia was a very little altered she would do just as well for a teacher as Miss C. With regard to your watch, I can do nothing; you could have Maria's as well as not if it were not for little notions that the Chapmans might have. I am sorry not to be at Weymouth this next Sunday, for I dare say Stanton will go down, but as there is nobody but Miss Davenport in the way I should think that Caroline might go down & pass the Sunday. I think that Caroline will be getting better soon; I should be very glad if after you have been in N. B. 5 or 6 weeks, if I continue better to come down & stay a few days. Perhaps Mr Bent might be in Boston & might offer to take me. This page I have devoted to items so I go from one thing to another. Chaplin is just the same person as ever. He is engaged in nothing special & never will be. I shall give that match up I believe. Miss Salisbury has gone to St Louis. Went sooner than she thought she should so that I had no chance to write. Best love to Wm Emerson don't you like him? One week nearly of your time is gone comfort yourself with that. I am glad for you in thinking that you will have all day tomorrow (for this last page is written Friday morning) they send her love. ever & ever yrs Anne.

Groton Mass
Sept 4

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Miss Debra Weston

Care of Rev. M. J. Bent

New Bedford

Map no. 11